

Meeting Minutes

Water District 02 Advisory Committee Meeting

July 10, 2013, 1:00PM

City Hall

Glenns Ferry, Idaho

Attendees:

Tim Luke, IDWR

Corbin Knowles, IDWR

Mark Henslee, Salmon Falls L&L

Jon Bowling, IPCo

Steve Tarbet, Flying H Farms

Neeley Miller, IDWR/IWRB

Robert Holmquist, IDFG

Vic Conrad, Simplot

Kent Fritsch, Simplot

Billy Wolfe, Upper Grandview Canal Co

Mark Frost, Grandview Irrigation District

Merrill Brown

Mark Noble, ATN Holdings & MAN Farms

Chris Bryant, Black Mesa Farms

- Committee Chair Mark Henslee opened meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m. Previous meeting minutes were read. Billy Wolfe made motion to approve previous meeting minutes. Mark Frost second. All approved.
- Corbin gave an overview of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) WaterSmart grant approval. He explained that he and other IDWR staff met with Brian Sauer, PE, BOR Snake River District Area office, who is managing our grant. Melinda Rittaco, BOR, is the BOR financial grant manager. She has asked for some additional information over the last week.
- Neeley discussed the handouts that included a budget for each project by owner/entity. The second handout outlined the proposed grant reimbursement procedures between individual entities/users and Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) as follows:
 1. *Coordinate with Neeley Miller (designated WaterSmart program manager) to enter into cost-reimbursement contract with the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB).*
 2. *Pre-site visit by Corbin Knowles (watermaster, designated WaterSmart field coordinator) to determine necessary equipment (measurement device and telemetry).*
 3. *Select measurement device and telemetry package from pre-approved list based upon watermaster recommendation.*
 4. *Submit measurement and telemetry invoices to Neeley Miller. Neeley will request reimbursement from the Bureau of Reclamation.*
 5. *Anticipate participants will be reimbursed within 30 days.*
 6. *Arrange for installation of equipment.*
 7. *Post-construction site-visit by watermaster for approval.*
 8. *Submit installation invoices to Neeley Miller. Neeley will request reimbursement from the Bureau of Reclamation.*
 9. *Anticipate participants will be reimbursed within 30 days.*
- Discussion about purchasing methods:
 - Group purchase through IWRB with individual invoices.
 - Concerns with individual third-party ownership and warranty.

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- Corbin said he would contact manufacturers regarding third party ownership/warranties and most appropriate approach.
- Motion by Billy Wolfe: Committee recommends pursuing group purchasing of meters and telemetry equipment contingent on Corbin's researching questions regarding third party ownership and warranty. This recommendation would not preclude any individual or entity participating in the BOR grant to purchase equipment on their own provided the equipment purchased is approved by the watermaster and IDWR. Vic Conrad seconded. All committee members voted in favor.
- Discussed installation of enclosures and magnetic flow meters, and related welding work. Corbin indicated that Ron Buhler is a contractor who has been doing a lot of mag meter installations in the Magic Valley area.
- Motion by Billy Wolfe: Committee recommends that water users participating in the BOR grant may individually contract for meter installations and welding and electrical services upon consultation with and recommendations from the WD02 watermaster, Corbin Knowles. Seconded by Mark Frost? All committee members present voted in favor.
- Telemetry equipment will be installed by IDWR staff, including Corbin Knowles, watermaster.
- Committee is satisfied with item 2c of meeting agenda (funding and/or reimbursement process) using a two-pronged payment approach
 - Upfront payment for equipment
 - Installation of meters, enclosures, etc.
- Meeting Agenda item 3 (measuring device order) discussion:
 - Deadline for full compliance: December 31, 2016.
 - Diversions greater than 1,000 acres should be in compliance by 2015.
 - Twenty-two (22) diversions under grant must be in compliance by 2014 irrigation season.
 - Measurement plans: Anything at or under 500 acres due by May 1, 2015.
 - Discussed and agreed that measurement requirements should apply to irrigation diversions serving more than 5 acres, and non-irrigation diversions with diversion rates greater than 0.24 cfs.
 - Mark Henslee proposed motion for committee to recommend to IDWR that the measurement order include the requirements and timeframes as discussed (as shown above). Billy Wolfe (or Mark Frost) seconded, all members voted in favor of the motion.
- Meeting Agenda item 4 (summer inventory and field work related to diversions in the district). Discussion by Corbin:
 - Corbin reviewed handout summarizing individual measurements made this year.

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- Seepage study is scheduled for July 16 & 17, 2013, by IDWR, Idaho Power Company (IPCO), and USGS. Study area will be from about Indian Cove to Murphy Gage and will include measurements of diversions, return flows, and selected river sections/gauges.
- IDWR sent notices asking owners for access to property for seepage study. We received responses from over 12 owners thus far. These 12 owners cover about one-half of the diversions in the study area.
- Swan Falls flows discussed by Jon bowling and Corbin:
 - Flows have come up over the past week but they were down to between 4200 and 4300 cfs the prior week. We are seeing some gains at lower Salmon Falls.
 - IPCO will start renting some water from Water District 01 on July 22, 2013, to be released below Milner through WD02 and below.
 - The IWRB has 4,000 acre feet (AF) of Palisades Reservoir storage water this year (1,000 AF did not fill). This will not be used to augment flows below Milner unless flows fall below the 3,900 cfs minimum flow at Murphy.
 - Corbin reported that ultrasonic meter measurements are working well so far on pipes he has measured – those pipes sizes have been 22 to 28 inch diameter.
- Additional business: none.
- Next meeting:
 - November 6, 2013, 1:00PM
City Hall, Glenns Ferry, ID
- Meeting Adjourned at 3:15PM

Minutes prepared by Tim Luke, IDWR
September 13, 2013